

Poultry

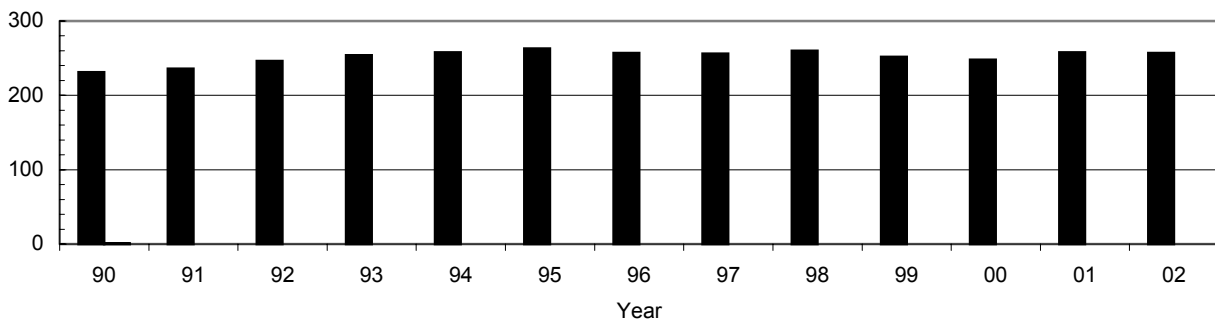
Delaware growers produced 257.4 million broiler/roaster chickens in 2002, virtually unchanged from 2001. Pounds live weight increased over 3 percent to 1.54 billion pounds. Total value of birds raised was \$494.2 million, down 17 percent from 2001 due to sharply lower prices during the year. Delaware ranks tenth in the number of birds produced (although Sussex County remains the number one producing county in the U.S.), but seventh in pounds produced and value of production. For the U.S., production of birds was up 2 percent to 8.59 billion, live weight was up 4 percent to 44.1 billion pounds, and value declined 20 percent, to \$13.4 billion.

In addition to its broiler/roaster chicken production, Delaware had an egg production flock (for table and hatching eggs) of 1.315 million layers, down 6 percent from 2001, that produced 347 million eggs, also down 6 percent from 2001. Value of production from eggs was \$17.5 million in 2002, down 16 percent from 2001. There were also 3,000 turkeys produced in Delaware in 2002.

Broiler/Roaster Production and Value, Delaware 1998-2002

Year	Number Broiler/Roasters	Ave. Liveweight Per Bird	Production	Ave. Value per Pound	Total Value
	Million birds	Pounds	Million pounds	Cents	Million dollars
1998	260	5.5	1,429	39.0	557
1999	251	5.6	1,410	36.0	507
2000	248	5.9	1,461	34.0	497
2001	258	5.8	1,495	40.0	598
2002	257	6.0	1,544	32.0	494

Delaware Broiler/Roaster Production - Head 1990-2002 (millions)



Delaware Broiler/Roaster Production - Pounds Liveweight 1990-2002 (millions)

